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promise that. But as far as the intent of this language in the implementation, no, no General Funds.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Right now, under federal law, is anything in this bill or the subsequent two bills, all of which relate, as I understand it, to the...to what's going on at the federal level,...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Right.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...is any of this mandated currently, at the current moment?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: No. These are all new provisions mandated by the federal act.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, you're saying that these things are currently mandated by the federal act.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That is correct, and we have until January of 2004 to implement these provisions, and the reason we said no General Funds shall be used is that what we're saying, in effect, is, yes, we will implement this mandate but only if you provide the funds to do it. That's, in essence, what we're saying...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...to the federal government.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I want to explore a little further what we mean when we say mandate. I mean, if it is a federal mandate, that word usually means we must do it.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Um-hum.

SENATOR BEUTLER: The mandate can be funded or it can be unfunded. Currently, it's unfunded...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: So far.